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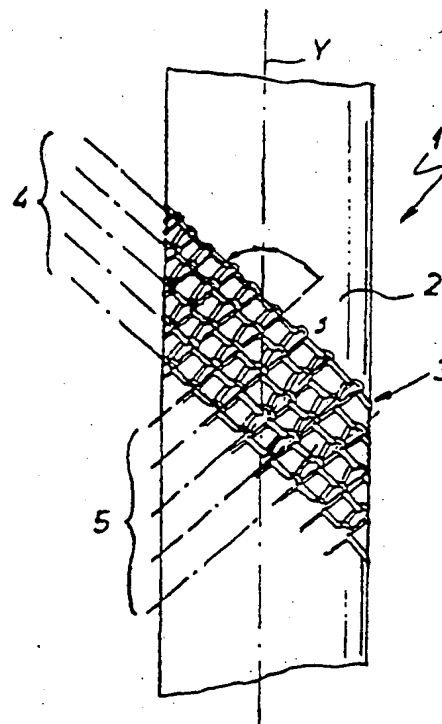
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP97/02155 (22) International Filing Date: 25 April 1997 (25.04.97) (30) Priority Data: VI97A000031 20 February 1997 (20.02.97) IT (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): FITT S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via Piave, 4, I-36066 Sandrigo (IT). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): MEZZALIRA, Rinaldo [IT/IT]; Via Breganzola, 3, I-36057 Arcugnano (IT). (74) Agent: FORATTINI, Amelia; Internazionale Brevetti Zini, Maranesi & C. S.r.l., Piazza Castello 1, I-20121 Milano (IT).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published Before the expiration of the time limit referred to in Article 21(2)(a) on the request of the applicant. Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report. Without classification; title and abstract not checked by the International Searching Authority.	

(54) Title: REINFORCED FLEXIBLE HOSE

(57) Abstract

A reinforced flexible hose includes at least one inner tubular layer (2) of plastic or rubber; a knitted reinforcement (3), which has substantially parallel rows (4) and lines (5) of substantially parallel stitches, with respective stitch counts per unit length of the hose (N_m , N_r); and an outer layer (6) which is superimposed on the reinforcement layer (3) to protect it. The knitted reinforcement layer (3) is provided in the form of a single tubular layer and is wrapped around the outer surface of the inner tubular layer (2); the rows (4) and lines (5) of stitches are substantially helical, with respective longitudinal pitches (P_m , P_r) and inclinations which are mutually opposite with respect to the longitudinal axis (Y). The longitudinal pitch (P_r) of the lines (5) of stitches is substantially proportional to the square of the outside diameter (ϕ_o) of the inner layer (2), whilst the number of lines (N_r) of stitches per unit length of the hose is directly proportional to the outside diameter (ϕ_o) of the inner layer (2).



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